REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Applicants have requested the cancellation of the claims as indicated insofar as such are substantial duplicates of other pending claims in the present application. Accordingly, an early and favorable Office Action is believed to be in order and the same is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Customer Number 22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000 Fax: (703) 413 -2220

(OSMMN 03/06)

I:\ATTY\JDH\280847US-SUPP AM.DOC

Gregory J. Maier

Registration No. 25,599

James D. Hamilton Registration No. 28,421 Attorneys of Record